PATENT THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Anthony C. Vrba et al.

Confirmation No.: 9211

Serial No.:

10/020,629

Examiner: Ho, Uyen T

Filing Date:

October 29, 2001

Group Art: 3731

For:

DISTAL PROTECTION DEVICE AND METHOD OF USE THEREOF

Docket No.: 1001.1514101

Customer No.: 28075

AMENDMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 CFR § 1.111

RECEIVED MAR 3 0 2004

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10: The undersigned hereby certified that this paper or papers, as described herein are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" having an Express Mail mailing label number of: EV315608524US, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 26th day of March, 2004.

Dear Sir/Madame:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed December 29, 2003, setting a three-month shortened statutory period for response ending March 29, 2003.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.